

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Where claims have been amended and/or canceled, such amendments and/or cancellations are done without prejudice and/or waiver and/or disclaimer to the claimed and/or disclosed subject matter, and the Assignee reserves the right to claim this subject matter and/or other disclosed subject matter in a continuing application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A high-resolution sensing method for a scanner, to allow the scanner to have a scan resolution thereof increased m times, wherein the scanner comprises a motor and a charge coupled device, and the charge coupled device has m rows of sensors spaced a distance from each other, the sensing method comprising:

moving the motor a distance substantially equal to a width of one row of the sensors at a speed substantially equal to the width divided by an exposure time; and

using the m rows of the sensors concurrently to scan m document portions during the exposure time wherein each of said m document portions are not adjacent to any other of said m document portions, so as to obtain a plurality of staggered image signals.

2. (Previously Presented) The sensing method according to claim 1, wherein the distance between rows of sensors is substantially equal to $(x/m)+n$ times of the width, wherein x is a positive integer smaller than m , and n is an integer equal to or larger than 0.

3. (Previously Presented) The sensing method according to claim 1, wherein the motor comprises a step motor.

4. (Original) The sensing method according to claim 1, wherein the staggered image signals are processed and re-sorted to obtain a plurality of image data.

5. (Currently Amended) A high-resolution sensing method for a scanner, to increase a resolution of the scanner to $m+1$ times, wherein the scanner has a motor and a charge coupled device, and the charge coupled device further has m rows of sensors spaced a distance from each other, the sensing method comprising:

moving the motor to a distance substantially equal to $m/(m+1)$ times the width of one row of the sensors in a speed equal to $m/(m+1)$ times the width divided by an exposure time; and

using the m rows of sensors to concurrently scan m document portions during the exposure time wherein each of said m document portions are not adjacent to any other of said m document portions, so as to obtain a plurality of staggered image signals.

6. (Previously Presented) The sensing method according to claim 5, wherein the distance between the rows of sensors is equal to n times the width, and n is an integer equal to or larger than 0.

7. (Previously Presented) The sensing method according to claim 5, wherein the motor comprises a step motor.

8. (Original) The sensing method according to claim 5, wherein the staggered image signals are processed and re-sorted to obtain a plurality of image data.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for allowing a scanner to have a scan resolution thereof increased m times, wherein the scanner comprises a motor and a charge coupled device, and the charge coupled device has m rows of sensors spaced a distance from each other, the means for allowing a scanner to have a scan resolution increase of m times including

means for moving the motor a distance substantially equal to a width of one row of the sensors at a speed substantially equal to the width divided by an exposure time; and

means for using the m rows of the sensors concurrently to scan m document portions during the exposure time wherein each of said m document portions are not adjacent to any other of said m document portions, so as to obtain a plurality of staggered image signals.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the distance between rows of sensors is substantially equal to $(x/m)+n$ times of the width, wherein x is a positive integer smaller than m , and n is an integer equal to or larger than 0.

11. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

scanning concurrently a first portion and a second portion of a document using a first row of sensors for the first document portion and a second row of sensors for the

second document portion, the first and second ~~rows of sensors~~ document portions not immediately adjacent to each other;

scanning concurrently a third portion and a fourth portion of a document using the first row of sensors for the third document portion and the second row of sensors for the fourth document portion, the third and fourth document portions not adjacent to each other; and

sorting data from the first and second rows of sensors to produce image data.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the first and second rows of sensors are spaced apart from each other at least a distance of one quarter of the width of each of the rows of sensors.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for scanning concurrently a first portion and a second portion of a document using a first row of sensors for the first document portion and a second row of sensors for the second document portion, the first and second ~~rows of sensors~~ document portions not immediately adjacent to each other;

means for scanning concurrently a third portion and a fourth portion of a document using the first row of sensors for the third document portion and the second row of sensors for the fourth document portion, the third and fourth document portions not adjacent to each other; and

means for sorting data from the first and second rows of sensors to produce image data.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the first and second rows of sensors are spaced apart from each other at least a distance of one quarter of the width of a row of sensors.

15. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
 dividing a scanning area into a plurality of scanning regions;
 scanning a first portion of ~~one~~ a first of the plurality of scanning regions using a first array of sensors during a first time period;
 scanning a second portion of said ~~one~~ first of the plurality of scanning regions using a second array of sensors during a second time period; and
 scanning a portion of ~~another~~ a second of the plurality of scanning regions using the first array of sensors during the second time period, the first and second of the plurality of scanning regions not adjacent to each other.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising sorting data from the first and second arrays of sensors to assemble image data.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
 means for dividing a scanning area into a plurality of scanning regions;
 means for scanning a first portion of ~~one~~ a first of the plurality of scanning regions using a first array of sensors during a first time period;
 means for scanning a second portion of said ~~one~~ first of the plurality of scanning regions using a second array of sensors during a second time period; and

means for scanning a portion of ~~another~~ a second of the plurality of scanning regions using the first array of sensors during the second time period, the first and second of the plurality of scanning regions not adjacent to each other.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising means for sorting data from the first and second arrays of sensors to assemble image data.